BUSINESS MEETING

BEFORE THE

CALIFORNIA ENERGY RESOURCES CONSERVATION

AND DEVELOPMENT COMMISSION

| In | the | Matter | of: | |
|-----|-------|----------|-----|--|
| Bus | sines | ss Meet: | ing | |
| | | | | |

CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION

HEARING ROOM A

1516 NINTH STREET

SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 19, 2005
10:12 A.M.

Reported by: Peter Petty

Contract No. 150-04-001

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COMMISSIONERS PRESENT

William J. Keese, Chairman

Arthur Rosenfeld

James D. Boyd

John L. Geesman

Jackalyne Pfannenstiel

STAFF PRESENT

Robert Therkelsen, Executive Director

William Chamberlain, Chief Counsel

Betty McCann, Secretariat

Lance Shaw

Tony Brasil

Gabriel Herrera

Al Alvarado

Jim Woodward

Adel Suleiman

Susan Brown

John Eash

Dora Yen-Nakafuji

Martha Krebs

PUBLIC ADVISER

Margret Kim

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ALSO PRESENT

Mark Johnson Golden Sierra Power, Inc.

Joseph McCabe Energy Ideas, LLC NexTek Power Systems

Raul "Bernie" Orozco Sempra Energy

Ken Parks
San Diego Gas and Electric Company
Sempra Energy

Kurt Johnson PowerLight

Robert Sarvey (via teleconference)

Jandy

Kari Smith PowerLight

Gord Petroski Fronius

Les Guliasi Pacific Gas and Electric Company

Gregory S. G. Klatt, Attorney
Douglass & Liddell
on behalf of Alliance for Retail Energy Markets

John A. McKinsey, Attorney Stoel Rives, LLP

Issa Ajalony
(via teleconference)

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| Certificate of Reporter | | | |

| 1 | PROCEEDINGS |
|----|--|
| 2 | 10:12 a.m. |
| 3 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: We'll call this meeting |
| 4 | of the Energy Commission to order and we'll recite |
| 5 | the Pledge. |
| 6 | (Whereupon the Pledge of Allegiance was |
| 7 | recited in unison.) |
| 8 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you, A couple of |
| 9 | notes here as we get started. As many of you are |
| 10 | probably aware, Manuel Alvarez had a heart attack |
| 11 | two days ago, and is undergoing an angiogram as we |
| 12 | speak. So, we may hear a report later. |
| 13 | On the issue of tsunami relief, if you |
| 14 | are interested in that issue there is a very |
| 15 | interesting note on our intranet about a very |
| 16 | beneficial way of participating in it, authored by |
| 17 | Commissioner Rosenfeld. |
| 18 | Art, would you like to mention something |
| 19 | about this? |
| 20 | COMMISSIONER ROSENFELD: Thanks. I |
| 21 | would ask you to look at the intranet site. There |
| 22 | is a small company which came out of Lawrence |
| 23 | Berkeley Lab, which purifies drinking water with |
| 24 | 40 watts of ultraviolet light, will yield enough |
| 25 | water, 10 tons a day, for refugee camps. And |

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1 eventually for villages.
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- 2 It's pretty cheap. A \$1 donation
- 3 leveraged today with International Finance
- 4 Corporation money, \$100 will provide clean
- 5 drinking water in refugee camps for 80 people.
- 6 And after the refugee camps are dismantled if it's
- 7 put down in villages it will move down there. And
- 8 it's 80 people with safe drinking water basically
- 9 forever for \$100.
- 10 So take a look at our intranet site.
- 11 Thank you. Bob, --
- MR. THERKELSEN: Mr. Chairman, the
- intranet site is not available or accessible to
- 14 people on the outside. That's only internal.
- 15 What we'll do is go ahead and post it on our
- website so if people are interested they can see
- it there, as well.
- 18 COMMISSIONER ROSENFELD: Hey, great,
- 19 thank you, sir.
- 20 MR. THERKELSEN: I thought you maybe did
- 21 that intentionally.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you, Mr.
- Therkelsen.
- 24 Consent calendar.
- 25 COMMISSIONER ROSENFELD: I move the

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1 consent calendar.
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- 2 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Second.
- 3 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Rosenfeld.
- 4 Second, Geesman.
- 5 All in favor?
- 6 (Ayes.)
- 7 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five
- 8 to nothing.
- 9 Item 2, Walnut Energy Center. Possible
- 10 approval of a petition to modify the use of the
- 11 interim water supply from potable to lower quality
- 12 well water, and to use potable water for limited
- 13 construction activities instead of lower quality
- 14 groundwater.
- MR. SHAW: Good morning, Commissioners
- 16 and audience. I'm Lance Shaw. Walnut Energy
- 17 Center is a 250 megawatt, natural gas fired,
- 18 combined cycle plant in the City of Turlock. It
- is owned and operated by Walnut Energy Center
- 20 Authority.
- It was certified on February 18, 2004.
- 22 Currently under construction, and it is
- 23 approximately 33 percent complete. Commercial
- operation is planned for November 2005.
- 25 On September 3, 2004, the Energy

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1 Commission received a petition concerning the
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- Walnut Energy Center requesting to replace potable
- 3 water from the City of Turlock with lower quality
- 4 groundwater for plant operational use.
- 5 That water is to be used for
- 6 approximately one year from commercial operation
- 7 until the water is available from the wastewater
- 8 treatment facility. The water is also to be used
- 9 for emergency backup.
- 10 This requires the drilling of two wells
- 11 to supply the lower quality groundwater.
- 12 The use of Turlock potable water is also
- 13 requested in the petition for limited construction
- 14 purposes, including hydrostatic testing.
- 15 Staff's analysis: Changing from potable
- 16 water to lower quality groundwater is a preferred
- 17 option. There may be some well drawdowns of
- 18 nearby wells, but this potential drawdown will be
- 19 offset by groundwater recharging derived from
- 20 ongoing agricultural surface water deliveries by
- 21 Turlock Irrigation District to nearby agricultural
- 22 use.
- The limited potable water for specific
- 24 construction purposes would not have a significant
- 25 impact.

| 1 | Public process: Notice of receipt and |
|----|---|
| 2 | staff analysis were mailed on December 24th to |
| 3 | interested agencies, post-certification mailing |
| 4 | list and to nearby well owners. No comments have |
| 5 | been received to date. |
| 6 | Conclusion: Staff concludes that all |
| 7 | the necessary findings pursuant to section 1769(a |
| 8 | of our regulations can be met. Staff recommends |
| 9 | that the Commission approve the project |
| 10 | modification and the associated revisions to |
| 11 | condition of certification soils and water-5. |
| 12 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Any |
| 13 | comments? Any public comment? |
| 14 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I'd move the |
| 15 | staff recommendation. |
| 16 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Geesman. |
| 17 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: Second. |
| 18 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Second, Boyd. |
| 19 | All in favor? |
| 20 | (Ayes.) |
| 21 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five |
| 22 | to nothing. |
| 23 | MR. SHAW: Thank you. |
| 24 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you, sir. |

Item 3, Emerging Renewables Program.

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1 Possible adoption of substantive changes to the
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- 2 guidebook for the emerging renewables program.
- 3 Notable changes include guidelines for
- 4 implementing the \$10 million pilot performance-
- 5 based incentive program; an additional test
- 6 protocol for eligible inverters; and the
- 7 elimination of time extensions.
- I do note, for staff's benefit, that
- 9 we're giving you five minutes on this. I have
- 10 three members of the audience and two people on
- 11 the phone who wish to comment on it.
- 12 Is this the one on which we received
- proposed amendments from PowerLight? I'm sorry,
- 14 there were just --
- MR. BRASIL: Yes, it is.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KEESE: You have those?
- 17 MR. BRASIL: I received a copy; have not
- 18 actually got through them yet.
- 19 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay.
- MR. BRASIL: Okay.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Let's go.
- MR. BRASIL: Good morning, Commissioners
- and Chairman. My name is Tony Brasil; I am the
- 24 supervisor for the emerging renewables program.
- 25 Before you were have two documents, the

proposed emerging renewables program guidebook and
the supporting Committee decision document on the
pilot performance-based incentive program.

As you identified, the proposed guidebook contains three primary elements, the most significant of which is a \$10 million pilot-based incentive program, the test protocol for the inverters and the time extension elimination, as well as relaxing the requirements for existing applicants to meet the time extension requirements subject to the guidelines under which they were approved previously.

Other changes include basic changes to the application forms, some additional examples for customer information. And I would like to add that on the application forms we did note some discrepancies in the instructions on the forms and the draft guidelines that would suggest that we would revise those forms to not change any of the content, but simply to make them easier to understand and fill out.

We did hold two workshops on the proposed pilot performance-based incentive program. The first one was a staff workshop on a strawman proposal, and the second was a Committee

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1 workshop on December 1st. Also on December 1st
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- 2 the Committee workshop addressed the proposed
- 3 other guidebook changes that change the standard
- 4 program.
- 5 We did receive a docketed item from a
- 6 person named Jandy. I understand she's on the
- 7 phone. So I do have here comments here; I can
- 8 summarize her points. But if she's on the phone
- 9 then I would leave it to her.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KEESE: We'll hear from the
- 11 members who are in the audience first, and then
- 12 we'll hear from her. You can respond at that
- 13 time.
- 14 MR. BRASIL: Okay. And with that, then
- we're here to answer any questions and are
- proposing to adopt the guidelines as presented.
- 17 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay. Any
- 18 Commissioners wish to speak before we hear from
- 19 the audience?
- 20 COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: Not before.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KEESE: All right. Why don't
- 22 we hear from Mark Johnson.
- MR. JOHNSON: Good morning,
- 24 Commissioners. My name is Mark Johnson; I'm with
- 25 Golden Sierra Power.

| 1 | The CEC noted in the Committee decisions |
|----|--|
| 2 | on pilot performance-based incentive programs |
| 3 | released on January 3rd by the California Energy |
| 4 | Commission that on page 3, paragraph 3, the report |
| 5 | references systems not performing to expectations. |
| 6 | There seemed to be some changing in the |
| 7 | wording, but essentially the communique to me was |
| 8 | that these systems are, across the board, not |
| 9 | performing to the standards set out. |
| 10 | But the bottomline is that the systems |
| 11 | in California that are provided incentives on a |
| 12 | PTC standard are not designed to allow the |
| 13 | inverter to run at capacity, thus creating a lack |
| 14 | of performance in the systems. |
| 15 | Since applying for a rule change last |
| 16 | summer regarding incentives being capped at the |
| 17 | inverter nameplate rating instead of the required |
| 18 | PTC power needed to run the inverters to capacity, |
| 19 | Golden Sierra Power has been able to work with the |
| 20 | energy efficiency program that would have secured |
| 21 | a loan based on a 70 kW AC system that required |
| 22 | 83.3 kW and PTC power to run at full capacity. |
| 23 | These calculations were reviewed by CEC |
| 24 | Staff and a standard production was accepted. |

Since this is the only recognized

1 financial program available that is based on

2 kilowatt hours performance production, this would

3 have allowed this system to meet a kWh production

4 standards provided by the National and Renewable

5 Energy Laboratories.

This has also allowed the SGIP to have provided a rebate based on 83.3 kW and PTC power while only producing a 70 kW AC through the

inverters.

Two weeks ago the El Dorado County

Irrigation District awarded Shell Solar a project
to build and design, an 875 kW AC system for \$5.5

million. Unfortunately, El Dorado Irrigation

District realized after awarding the project that
the size of the system being proposed would not
generate the kWh being required.

Today I just left the board meeting with the El Dorado Irrigation District, and they are requiring Shell to increase the size of STC wattage by 16.5 percent which equates to roughly \$450,000, which will increase the cost to Shell.

With more and more independent analysis being provided which is determining that one of the reasons the systems are not performing to the nameplate rating of the inverter is simply a

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shortage of power being supplied.
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- As long as the Energy Commission is

 setting the standards on how they pay incentives

 for these programs you will continue to see a

 shortage in production capabilities in solar

 systems built in California. Not based on

 anything else but a flaw that has been created by

 the CEC and large corporations that created this
- Hopefully agencies like EID will
 recognize this issue and demand the industry build
 systems to allow for production of full capacity
 no matter what the CEC equates the value of the
 incentives today or tomorrow.
- Thank you very much.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Does staff
- 17 have a comment on --

mechanism.

- MR. BRASIL: My best understanding is
- 19 that Mr. Johnson's concern is that the incentive
- is paid on the kilowatt, or the peak power
- 21 production capability of the system, which is
- 22 physically limited by the capability of the
- inverters.
- 24 There are shortcomings to that approach
- 25 in that it does not reflect energy production of a

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given system that might have the same peak rating.
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- 2 In part, that is the basis and a large part of the
- 3 reason for proposing the pilot based incentive
- 4 program, is to actually pay on what systems
- 5 produce any energy over a three-year period, in
- 6 this case. But to learn more; to see if that's a
- 7 better way to ultimately implement the incentive
- 8 program.
- 9 So, in part, this pilot program will
- 10 lead to more information and would address that
- 11 particular concern for a given project that could
- 12 quality.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Joe McCabe.
- MR. McCABE: Morning. Thank you for the
- opportunity to talk to you today.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Identify yourself for
- 17 the record, please.
- 18 MR. McCABE: I'm sorry. Joseph McCabe
- on behalf of NexTek Power Systems. And I was
- 20 about to mention that, so --
- 21 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- MR. McCABE: -- thank you for the
- 23 opportunity to talk today regarding the emerging
- 24 renewable program agenda item.
- 25 My name is Joe McCabe. In the recent

| 1 past, for three and a half years, I helped run th | 1 | past, | for | three | and | а | half | years, | , I | helped | run | th |
|---|---|-------|-----|-------|-----|---|------|--------|-----|--------|-----|----|
|---|---|-------|-----|-------|-----|---|------|--------|-----|--------|-----|----|

- 2 PIER research and development for solar here at
- 3 the Commission. Today I'm representing the
- 4 interests of NexTek Power Systems.
- 5 Also, thank you for your continued
- 6 support of the emerging renewable program, which
- 7 has helped, and continues to help, the U.S.
- 8 photovoltaic industry. And thank you for all the
- 9 work that has gone into the performance-based
- 10 initiatives. We applaud your efforts.
- I'd also like to thank you for the
- 12 approval in 2004 of the NexTek NPS-1000 system.
- 13 And for including it on the list of eligible
- inverters on the CEC website.
- 15 As you might know, the NexTek system
- 16 directly couples the output from photovoltaic
- modules to fluorescent lighting, and now motor
- 18 controllers, and takes additional power, only when
- 19 needed, from the grid.
- The guidebook being adopted today
- 21 provides the state with more realistic
- 22 expectations from inverters, a component and
- 23 systems that provide alternating current.
- 24 The grid-connected NexTek system always
- uses 100 percent of the solar PV power produced,

and therefore inversion is not needed. Using all

- of the PV energy in its native DC form increases
- 3 system efficiency and reduces peak grid use while
- 4 eliminating utilities' concerns with islanding,
- 5 net metering and other power quality issues.
- 6 We would like to understand more clearly
- 7 how this technology fits in the new guidelines,
- 8 and assure its place in new lists of eligible
- 9 equipment. That's possibly a question for the
- 10 program.
- 11 Maybe I'll continue and then -- NexTek
- 12 would like to work with the CEC to determine a
- means to effectively validate systems like these
- that meet all the criteria for acceptance, but do
- 15 not need to invert.
- In addition, we'd like to recommend that
- 17 the CEC evaluate performance incentives that
- 18 acknowledge DC kilowatt hours produced and avoided
- 19 grid use. This would open the door for California
- 20 ratepayers and the utilities that serve them to
- 21 systems that meet the intent of the CEC incentive
- 22 program in innovative, sometimes more efficient
- 23 ways.
- 24 And if you have any questions I'll be
- 25 happy to try to answer them at this time.

1 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay. My question is

- 2 are you looking for an answer to your question
- 3 while you're standing there?
- 4 MR. McCABE: Not necessarily, but just
- 5 to acknowledge that there are some PV systems that
- 6 produce only DC and are currently eligible. And
- 7 we would like to maintain that eligibility.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay, thank you.
- 9 Staff.
- 10 MR. BRASIL: Regarding the NexTek
- 11 system, we do have one on our list currently, and
- 12 we haven't proposed any changes to the language
- 13 that would change that.
- 14 And then regarding the value of the DC
- in the future, I think that would require further
- 16 study before establishing that. And I guess, if I
- may ask the question, is are you proposing to look
- 18 at the DC energy produced as an aspect to the
- 19 performance payment program, or just to the extent
- of the rebate program?
- 21 MR. McCABE: Possibly, I understand you
- 22 have a pilot going and we don't want to rock the
- 23 boat too much. But just consider it for the value
- 24 that it provides the investor-owned utilities and
- 25 their ratepayers.

1 CHAIRMAN KEESE: I'm sure the staff and

- 2 Committee will.
- 3 MR. McCABE: Great, thank you very much.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Bernie
- 5 Orozco.
- 6 MR. OROZCO: Good morning, Mr. Chair,
- 7 Members. Bernie Orozco with Sempra Energy on
- 8 behalf of Sempra Energy Utilities.
- 9 We, on December 3rd, filed comments with
- 10 the Commission on a concern that we had regarding
- 11 the notification for interconnection. This is a
- major concern for us. It deals with staff safety,
- 13 knowing who is connecting where; and making sure
- 14 that our staff are aware, when they go out on the
- line, that there is no incident or accident.
- We originally filed those comments. We
- were pleased with the earlier draft of the report.
- But in the most recent draft we saw that the
- 19 language was softened on this notification
- 20 requirement.
- 21 And I have today with me Ken Parks, who
- 22 operates and runs our Sempra Energy Utilities net
- 23 energy metering program, to speak about how the
- language now raises concerns for our staff safety.
- 25 And I'd like to ask him to come up and explain

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1 kind of our concerns.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 3 MR. PARKS: Good morning; my name is Ken
- 4 Parks. I'm with San Diego Gas and Electric
- 5 Company. I manage the net metering program for
- 6 San Diego Gas and Electric.
- 7 When you look on page 23 in section 6 of
- 8 the new handbook language, as Bernie has referred
- 9 to, it kind of softened the language a little bit
- 10 about paying back the incentive program before a
- 11 letter of authorization from the utility to
- operate in parallel.
- 13 And we have found many systems in
- 14 previous months back, about 18, 12 months back,
- where systems were actually operating without the
- 16 utility being aware of the operation.
- 17 It's a great concern of our because of
- 18 the safety of our employees. Normally the way we
- 19 can find a system like that, the electric bill has
- 20 reduced significantly to almost a negative. So we
- 21 do some research to find out why their electric
- 22 bill has decreased so much. And when we did the
- 23 investigation we find out there's a photovoltaic
- 24 system that is installed without our knowing.
- What happens is the system is feeding

1 back to the grid, and our linemen and our

- 2 personnel that are out there working, we have
- 3 facility maps, which each transformer is labeled
- 4 where a customer can be feeding back to the grid.
- 5 That labeling is not done because we're not aware
- 6 of it going on.
- 7 So if a troubleman's out there
- 8 troubleshooting the job in the daytime and the
- 9 system's feeding back, there's a potential of
- 10 property damage, or actually loss of life. So
- it's a really great concern of ours.
- 12 We go through great strides to insure
- within our service territory that once all the
- 14 paperwork is completed to authorize them to
- 15 operate within two to three working days after we
- get notifications from the jurisdictions, the city
- or the county, that it has been inspected and
- approved by the National Electrical Code.
- 19 So we'd really prefer if you'd consider
- just maybe strengthen up the language a little bit
- 21 where the utility has a little bit more control
- 22 where the system is installed. And after it meets
- 23 the NEC code, and actually meets San Diego Gas and
- 24 Electric standards, then we will authorize them.
- 25 And we've gone to the great strides even

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1 to fax the authorization letters to the
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- 2 contractors so they can go ahead and apply back to
- 3 the CEC for their rebate money.
- 4 And that's our position.
- 5 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 6 MR. PARKS: Thank you.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Staff. Bernie, did you
- 8 want to -- hang on. Yeah. Staff, do you have
- 9 anything --
- 10 MR. BRASIL: Just to reiterate, the
- initial staff proposal contained language that
- Bernie referenced that would require the applicant
- 13 to submit this letter of authorization to the
- 14 Energy Commission before payment would be made.
- 15 But they could turn in their payment
- 16 request along with their permit before getting
- 17 that letter of authorization. So that was the
- language that was then removed back to status quo.
- 19 So the current proposed language is
- 20 simply that we would get the utility
- 21 interconnection application that the customer
- 22 would then submit to the utility. And then we
- 23 would pay the rebate based on that. And it's
- 24 still required that the customer provide us the
- 25 letter of authorization, but it would likely occur

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1 after the payment was made.
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- 2 Part of the reason to have the language 3 as proposed is that the customer's already 4 required to interconnect their system whether or
- 5 not they get a rebate. So we wouldn't necessarily
- 6 be changing that in that regard.
- 7 Also, this is --
- 8 CHAIRMAN KEESE: So you're indicating
- 9 that it's already a responsibility of the customer
- 10 to communicate with the utility?
- 11 MR. BRASIL: It is.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KEESE: And I guess the utility
- is telling us that that doesn't occur, is that --
- 14 MR. PARKS: Yes. What happens is
- there's a window there where the customer has
- applied, actually, you know, sent their
- 17 application in for an interconnection agreement
- 18 and signed the agreement with us. But it sits in
- 19 the queue until the city notifies us or the county
- 20 notifies us that it's been approved for
- interconnection, you know, as far as the NEC code.
- So, there may be months where it's
- 23 sitting in the queue where it could be operating
- 24 without us knowing that it's operating.
- 25 So the letter of authorization was the

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1 key point. It would resolve the issue, our safety
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- 2 issues, with our employees.
- 3 MR. HERRERA: Gabe Herrera with the
- 4 Commission's legal office. As Tony indicated, the
- 5 language initially included in the draft guidebook
- 6 revisions identified this process that I think San
- 7 Diego Gas and Electric would prefer. And we
- 8 received comments from a number of retailers that
- 9 indicated that what they were experiencing in
- 10 terms of delays was going to delay the Energy
- 11 Commission's payment. That some of the utilities
- 12 were delaying several months.
- 13 And that if we transferred this delay
- onto them, they would have to essentially carry
- the financing costs for purchasing PV systems,
- inverters, et cetera.
- 17 And so I think a decision was made
- 18 recommended by the Renewables Committee that we
- 19 stick with the status quo, based upon the concerns
- 20 raised by a number of retailers. And if there are
- 21 retailers here today I would encourage them to
- 22 speak up on that particular point.
- MR. PARKS: May I interject?
- 24 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Certainly.
- MR. PARKS: We've gone to great lengths,

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1 even with large development, master home
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- 2 developments such as Ladero Ranch. We have about
- 3 470 homes up there that are photovoltaic customers
- 4 of ours.
- 5 We've gone to the length where the
- 6 developer actually signed the interconnection
- 7 agreement with us, because they're the customer of
- 8 record. And once it's been approved we give them
- 9 a letter of authorization, and also fax it to the
- 10 contractor where he can go and apply for his money
- 11 through the CEC.
- 12 What it creates is more work on us
- because once the home is sold, during the escrow
- 14 we have the developer and the new homeowner, he
- 15 actually signs a new interconnection agreement
- 16 with us. We void out the old one with the
- developer; the new one is in place; and we also
- 18 send another letter of authorization to the
- 19 homeowner.
- So, we've gone through great strides,
- 21 and actually more work on the utility company to
- 22 make sure that this process works well. This
- 23 worked well with our organization for the last 18
- 24 months. And very little complaints from
- contractors. And, you know, we work very well.

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1 We have probably about 40 contractors in our
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- 2 service territory that install photovoltaic
- 3 systems.
- 4 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Mr. Chairman.
- 5 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Commissioner Geesman.
- 6 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: What's wrong with
- 7 the status quo, then? Mr. Herrera has told us
- 8 that what we've simply done in the language in
- 9 front of us is to carry forward the status quo.
- 10 MR. PARKS: It appears to us when we
- 11 read the status quo that it is soft in the
- 12 language. We'd like it to say that instead of
- money, will not be paid until they get a letter of
- authorization to operate in parallel with SDG&E,
- or with the utility company --
- 16 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Well, I know
- 17 you'd like to improve upon the status quo, as you
- 18 perceive the improvement. But, I'm trying to
- 19 figure out, given all of the installations that
- 20 have gone on in your service territory, what's
- 21 wrong with the status quo.
- 22 Have there been safety problems or
- 23 injuries --
- MR. PARKS: There has not been injuries,
- 25 you know, and we have had systems that were up and

1 running; we show up at the site and find that they

- 2 are running in parallel with the utility company
- 3 without us knowing it.
- 4 So there is that window that we're
- 5 talking about. We'd like to firm up that window
- as a safety issue for the employees.
- 7 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: But thus far
- 8 you've been able to make the status quo work?
- 9 MR. PARKS: So far we have made it work.
- 10 But what happens is it puts the burden on the
- 11 utility company to be the bad guy. If we show up
- 12 out there and the system's running, we physically
- 13 have to lock off the -- utility disconnect. And
- 14 then we make a double trip back to turn it back on
- once all the paperwork is completed.
- So, once again, the utility looks like
- the bad people because we're out there, we're
- 18 locking them off, the photovoltaic system because
- it's not authorized to operate in parallel with
- 20 the utility company. So, once again, it makes us
- look like we're the show-stopper for renewable
- 22 energy, which we are not.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Commissioner
- 24 Pfannenstiel.
- 25 COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: Mr.

1 Chairman, I think that partly what we have here is

- 2 standards or guidelines that we put into effect
- 3 for the entire state. And I think while San Diego
- 4 Gas and Electric has, as they have said, made some
- 5 really, I think, outstanding procedures in place
- 6 to make sure that they didn't delay the whole
- 7 process, installation and payment, we're hearing
- 8 that that's not necessarily the case throughout
- 9 the state.
- 10 So there are problems elsewhere. We are
- 11 hearing from the installers that there is a delay,
- 12 not apparently with San Diego, but elsewhere. So
- 13 the balance was to stick with the status quo.
- MR. PARKS: You know, and we're aware of
- that. We've talked to other utility companies
- 16 within, you know, California where they've come
- 17 and visited us. And say, okay, why is your system
- 18 working so much better.
- 19 Well, one is because we have a smaller
- 20 service territory probably. But the other way is
- 21 that we have a one-stop shop where instead of
- going through a couple different departments
- 23 within the utility company, they go to one group
- that actually funnels the work out. And they're
- 25 actually in the process of modeling their system

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1 after SDG&E to improve upon, you know, the
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- 2 process.
- 3 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Mr. Chairman.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Commissioner Geesman.
- 5 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I think we would
- 6 be receptive to a proposal in the future from your
- 7 industry were you and your counterparts able to
- 8 figure out ways in which to streamline the
- 9 administration of this program.
- 10 I think Commissioner Pfannenstiel and I
- 11 have, on several occasions, remarked upon the fact
- that as volume goes up in this program, the Energy
- 13 Commission's ability to effectively and
- 14 efficiently administer it diminishes.
- We don't have, I think, adequate
- 16 resources to properly administer the program now.
- 17 We're not going to get any more as volume goes up.
- 18 And I think in all reality we're likely to end up
- 19 passing on an increasing share of that
- 20 administrative burden to you and to the other
- 21 utilities.
- 22 So I would encourage you to sit down
- 23 with the other two companies and determine if
- there are ways that administration by the
- 25 utilities could improve the efficiency.

| 1 | And, | frankly, | Ι | think | Commissioner |
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- 2 Pfannenstiel is right, your company has really set
- 3 the benchmark in this area. And I think we would
- 4 be receptive to a proposal in the future.
- 5 But for now I don't see any reason to
- 6 vary from the status quo as it relates to this
- 7 guidebook.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Bernie.
- 9 MR. OROZCO: Real quick. And,
- 10 Commissioner Geesman, the status quo has worked.
- 11 And as I understand, talking to our program folks,
- it works because there's an informal sort of
- 13 relationship agreement with the Energy Commission
- 14 folks and with the industry folks.
- So that relationship works fine for now.
- But, you know, 17 years in state government,
- 17 unofficial agreements are only as good as long as
- 18 the folks that are there who keep continuing them.
- 19 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Come back to us
- in six months.
- MR. OROZCO: We'll be back in six
- 22 months. Thank you.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Kurt
- Johnson.
- MR. JOHNSON: Good morning,

1 Commissioners. My name is Kurt Johnson; I'm with 2 PowerLight Corporation.

PowerLight's primarily been in the

commercial business of solar electric. And we're

going to be getting into the residential game here

in April, in conjunction with the CEC, doing zero

energy homes program.

And reading through the language of the guidebook we have a concern in appendix 5A under new construction where there's a requirement for us to supply a copy of the building permit when we're submitting for a rebate application.

And the problem with that is that in the new construction process the solar companies that get in there at the beginning of the design process, so that we can design the solar electric system into the house, and it's long before the permits are pulled.

So that process could take up to a year.

And if we miss out on signing up for the rebates a

year ahead of time, we don't know what price to

lock down with the customer, and the rebate could

potentially not be there.

So, I was hoping that we could change the requirement from having a copy of the building

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1 permit to a copy of the interconnection
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- 2 application with the utility to fulfill the
- 3 requirement of making sure that we're connected to
- 4 the proper utility. I'm assuming that's the
- 5 requirement of the building permit.
- 6 MR. BRASIL: The language in that area
- 7 in appendix 5A, the only changes -- the language
- 8 with the concept was adopted in the July 2004
- 9 guidelines. And the only changes we made in the
- 10 current version were simply nonsubstantive changes
- 11 to make it more clear as to what the requirement
- 12 is.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KEESE: What you're suggesting,
- 14 this is -- if this is a valid query arriving at
- 15 the last minute.
- MR. BRASIL: Yes. I mean, again, I got
- 17 these comments this morning. So I'm not sure, at
- this time, whether the utility application would
- or would not be adequate, because we do not have
- 20 extensions anymore.
- 21 And one of the reasons that this
- language was adopted this way is to allow new
- 23 construction, which typically takes longer than
- 24 nine months or a year to complete, to have enough
- 25 time to complete the system.

1 CHAIRMAN KEESE: So, are you indicating

- 2 that you might be able to handle his problem on a
- 3 staff basis?
- 4 MR. BRASIL: It would require a
- 5 guidebook change ultimately, but so at this point
- 6 I'm not in a position to suggest whether it's the
- 7 appropriate approach.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay, so --
- 9 MR. HERRERA: Chairman Keese, if I can
- 10 add, I believe the basis for this requirement is
- 11 that the applicant have a serious intent on moving
- 12 forward. Certainly the Commission doesn't want to
- 13 reserve money for a speculative project if it
- doesn't know for sure that that project is going
- 15 forward.
- So what we thought might be helpful was
- for the applicant to provide a permit or some
- 18 other improvement, slight improvement, approval or
- 19 permit to demonstrate to us that, in fact, the
- 20 project is likely to go forward, therefore it
- 21 makes sense to reserve money for that particular
- 22 project.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KEESE: It sounds to me like
- this is something that has to be worked out by
- 25 staff and the Committee, and that we're not going

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1 to handle it here. Would that -- Commissioner
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- 2 Pfannenstiel.
- 3 COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: Yes.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you for your
- 5 comment. I think you'll have to work with staff
- and we'll see what it takes. If they can handle
- 7 your problem, that's fine. If not, we'll come
- 8 back with another consideration of the issue.
- 9 MR. JOHNSON: Thank you very much.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Mr. Sarvey
- is on the phone. Bob?
- MR. SARVEY: Yes, thank you, Chairman
- 13 Keese. I've installed two systems (inaudible)
- 14 12,000 watts, one in my home, one in my business.
- 15 And I want to speak from the perspective of a
- small person installing, rather than a large
- 17 corporation.
- 18 And first I wanted to address San Diego
- 19 Gas and Electric's comments. My experience has
- 20 been with the utility that -- this is PG&E, not
- 21 San Diego Gas and Electric. They held me up for
- 22 two months and tried to make me install a
- 23 capacitor on the telephone pole, or an individual
- 24 transformer, a dedicated transformer they called
- 25 it, just for my particular system that I installed

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in my home of 12,000 watts.
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- And, indeed, that put me past the time

 where I was supposed to have my system complete.

 I had to apply for an extension. So, I would
- 5 encourage you not to eliminate extension requests.
- I also had an extension request on my

 contractor-installed system at my business of

 12,000 watts, due to the fact that the contractor

 lost his license in the seventh month of the

 installing, for various reasons. So, I would

encourage you not to eliminate that.

- And as far as the concern of making the 12 13 small systems more efficient, a pre-site survey 14 would definitely take care of that. I realize 15 that would take some manpower; perhaps it could be done through some additional paperwork on the 16 17 permit application indicating the direction of the 18 array, the angle of the array and some sort of way 19 to confirm that there's no intervening landscaping 20 or structural things block the array.
- 21 And from the experience I've had in
 22 Tracy of about six installations of neighbors and
 23 such, the ones that have performed poorly are the
 24 ones that are either facing the wrong direction or
 25 have some sort of landscape blocking them.

1 So that's all I wanted to say and thank

- 2 you for the opportunity to comment. I also would
- 3 like to have some public comment a little later.
- 4 Thank you.
- 5 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 6 MR. BRASIL: In the application form we
- 7 have, prior to payment we have asked or identified
- 8 information on the application so that the
- 9 customers would identify the orientation, any
- 10 potential shading of the final installed system.
- 11 It wouldn't be done in advance, but it would give
- 12 us some information to see if we apparently have
- an issue or problem with poorly sited systems.
- 14 Our site verifications to date have
- shown that most systems are installed in a good
- orientation, but there are still some out there
- 17 that have partial shading and so on. And that's
- an issue we're looking to address, although we
- 19 don't know that we can solve it as part of the
- 20 rebate program.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Extensions,
- 22 did I hear a discussion of extensions?
- MR. BRASIL: He did comment suggesting
- 24 to not eliminate the extension, so what we have
- 25 before you is to not allow any extensions going

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1 forward. In part, that is to encourage the
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- 2 customer to one, have some assurance that he, in
- 3 fact, will get done within the time period; and if
- 4 not, they can simply reapply.
- 5 So they would not be out of funding
- 6 entirely, but they would probably get a lower
- 7 incentive if they don't get finished. And part of
- 8 that is to help reduce the time spent on dealing
- 9 with extension requests and dealing with
- 10 applications that are coming in and getting those
- 11 out quicker and the payments out quicker.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. And
- 13 finally, Jandy.
- 14 JANDY: I was calling because I
- 15 understood you were talking about removing the
- 16 extension process. And from the prospective of
- 17 the small person versus the big corporation, and
- 18 the person who's doing new construction at the
- 19 same time, as someone else mentioned, new
- 20 construction has innumerable delays that are
- 21 totally out of an individual's control, and as the
- 22 small person, this program was really put in place
- in order to help encourage the small person to put
- in these kinds of arrays.
- 25 My partner and I are almost exhausting

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1 our IRA to pay for this system. And even
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- 2 refunding at a smaller rate means we can't do it,
- 3 after we've already invested thousands of dollars
- 4 in extra engineering for a home that would carry
- 5 that load.
- 6 And your recommendation that no
- 7 extensions be allowed was obviously out of
- 8 workshop desire to this current winter weather.
- 9 And how do people deal with it? You're not going
- 10 to grant any extensions, how do people deal with
- the results of stuff like this with season's
- 12 weather, where roads are washed out, they can't
- get materials to their property? Even their
- 14 property's getting washed out.
- 15 And it may be recoverable, but somebody
- 16 who is facing a deadline here in the next two
- 17 months with no extension has no chance to get that
- done in time.
- 19 CHAIRMAN KEESE: I'll short-circuit this
- 20 and say I believe that the answer we heard is that
- 21 it's for bureaucratic efficiency that we're doing
- 22 this, administrative efficiency. And that should
- 23 such an event occur you may immediately refile and
- get in the queue again. Is that what I heard?
- 25 MR. BRASIL: That is correct. And Jandy

- 1 does have a --
- 2 JANDY: But how do we know that that's
- 3 going to happen? And how do we know we're going
- 4 to get approved the second time around? There's
- 5 no guarantees we're going to be approved a second
- 6 time.
- 7 MR. BRASIL: The other issue, too, is
- 8 that Jandy does have a reservation with us. And
- 9 in the proposed guidelines would get the three-
- 10 month extension upon request.
- 11 The other concern is that given the
- three months, might still not be enough.
- The guidelines, again adopted in July,
- for new construction would give them 18 months to
- 15 complete the installation, whereas the rules under
- which she had applied only allowed nine months for
- 17 her particular project.
- 18 So, going forward, people who are
- 19 building new homes would have a full 18 months to
- 20 actually complete the home and the system
- installation. So it won't be an issue going
- 22 forward. It's truly an issue here with this
- 23 particular situation.
- 24 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Do you understand that
- answer?

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                   JANDY: Yeah, I understand that I'm
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         going to be caught and (inaudible). That I'm
         restricted to a three-month -- I have to finish my
 3
         project in nine months, not 18. And if I can't
 5
         get it finished in 12 instead of 18, I'm kind of
 6
         out because I'm in between.
                   But even for people in the future, I
         mean for the little guy -- for the big guy who's
 8
         got lots of money to throw at a project it's
         probably not such an issue. But for the little
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11
         guy who's budgeting really tight and trying to do
         it with everything they've got, not being able to
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13
         get an extension and losing that extra $1000,
14
         2000, 3000 in rebate fees is the difference
15
         between doing it or not.
                   And in my case, and in a lot of older
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17
         people's cases that I've talked to who all think,
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         oh, you're doing the right thing, it's the
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         with my disability, or my mother who puts on four
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difference between me being able to be comfortable sweaters because she's afraid she can't afford to heat her house. And I don't want to be in her position in my old age.

24 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay, --

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25 JANDY: Which is why we're sacrificing

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1 so much now to do this.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. I think
- 3 we've heard your input. We'll find out in a
- 4 moment what the reaction of the Committee is to
- 5 your suggestion. Thank you for your input.
- 6 JANDY: Okay.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Mr. Ken Smith of
- 8 PowerLight. I hope you're speaking to a different
- 9 issue.
- 10 MS. SMITH: Actually Kari.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Oh, Kari Smith, sorry.
- MS. SMITH: Thank you. Good morning,
- 13 Commissioners. Just a brief comment addressing
- 14 the performance-based incentive pilot that's being
- 15 adopted with this draft guidebook, also. And we
- 16 filed comments earlier.
- 17 And I just wanted to reiterate that we
- 18 believe that the three-year contract length is
- 19 insufficient to really stimulate the market using
- 20 a PBI or a performance-based incentive approach.
- 21 And that is something that we've filed
- 22 in our previous comments. And particularly I just
- 23 wanted to reiterate that point because I believe
- 24 the pilot is designed to target large customers,
- commercial customers, which is the market niche

1 that we actually focus on and specialize in at

- 2 PowerLight.
- And so in our view with a 50-cent-per-
- 4 kilowatt incentive, coupled with a three-year
- 5 contract length, that we will result in a negative
- 6 net present value, which will be unattractive to
- 7 our customers.
- 8 And, in addition, I believe it's perhaps
- 9 outside the purview of the Commission, but low-
- 10 interest financing is a really important component
- 11 which was used to stimulate the performance-based
- incentive approach in Germany, which I believe
- 13 you're using as a model or a guide. And that's
- 14 something that isn't being addressed in this
- program.
- And I think the assumption is that large
- 17 corporate customers, it's easy for them to take
- 18 out debt. But, in fact, it's not so simple for
- 19 customers who take out debt for noncore items,
- 20 which a PV system would be. They prefer, if they
- 21 are going to take on debt, to do it for their core
- business items. So that's what makes the low-
- 23 interest financing so critical, coupled with the
- 24 PBI.
- 25 So I just wanted to make those comments

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1 for the record. Thank you.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you very much.
- 3 Any other, anybody else wish to speak to this
- 4 issue? Seeing none, Committee?
- 5 COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: Mr.
- 6 Chairman, I would just observe that the comments
- 7 that we've heard today, for the most part, are
- 8 comments that we've heard at the workshops that
- 9 we've had on these issues.
- 10 And, you know, they're very important
- 11 comments, and I think that they represent a wide
- 12 range of views on how best, how most effectively
- 13 to implement these programs.
- 14 And the two in particular, the
- extension, the existence of extensions or the
- length of the extensions, it's a very difficult
- issue.
- We heard from many parties and we
- 19 balanced both, I believe, the equity of the
- 20 situation against the ability to process the
- 21 number of extension requests. As Commissioner
- 22 Geesman said awhile ago, we're looking towards a
- 23 program that we hope and expect is going to get
- scaled up to some level. And we need to be able
- 25 to administer it efficiently and effectively and

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1 fairly.
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- In terms of the pilot, the performance
 based incentive pilot, again we designed it

 balancing a large number of interests from the
- 5 parties that participated in the workshops. And I
- 6 would be the first to admit that it doesn't do
- 7 everything we would like it to do. But I think
- 8 it's a valid pilot, and I think we're going to
- 9 learn a lot from it. And it is set up to do
- 10 exactly that, to be an experiment to give us the
- information that we need to design a performance-
- 12 based system going forward.
- 13 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Was that a motion?
- 14 COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: If there is
- 15 no other comments, yes. I then would move the
- 16 item.
- MS. KIM: Mr. Chairman.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KEESE: I'm sorry?
- MR. PETROSKI: I have some comments.
- 20 Commissioner Geesman, I'm Gord Petroski, senior
- 21 sales engineer for Fronius. And I'd like to have
- 22 some comments with regard to the inverter testing
- 23 protocols for efficiency.
- In essence, the process to revise the
- 25 CEC methods of determining appropriate rebate

1 structure have developed the inverter efficiency
2 test protocol has undergone many revisions to

3 reach its completion.

The primary goals of the process are to

make this a fair and representative test in the

most reasonable and cost effective way possible.

Although we support most of the latest draft and the documentation, we would like to express our concern over the issue of what is considered an acceptable test laboratory.

The ideal situation is to have a series of laboratories that are both experienced in the testing of such parameters of legitimacy to verify accurate and repeatable measurements, and provide ample opportunities for manufacturers to obtain quick and inexpensive results.

The 2005 emerging draft guidebook

defines laboratory criteria in appendix 3 as

follows: Nationally recognized testing

laboratories shall be those laboratories that have

been recognized by the U.S. Department of Labor,

Occupational Safety and Health Administration

(OSHA), in accordance with Title 29 of the Code of

Federal Regulations, section 1910.7, and are

approved to conduct test UL-1741 under the scope

A list of all current nationally

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of the OSHA recognition."
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conducted test UL-17 -- excuse me -- a list of all 3 nationally recognized testing laboratories is 5 available on OSHA's webpage at -- we know that. 6 Please note that not all nationally recognized testing laboratories identified on 8 OSHA's list are approved to conduct UL-1741. 9 We believe this definition is both 10 technically and logically inconsistent with the 11 goals of the program. The definition of an NRTL in and of itself is restrictive, when there are 12 13 numerous laboratories worldwide that meet equally 14 strict or stricter guidelines. 15 If we're to seek a common denominator as defined by the OSHA-approved NRTLs we then 16 17 restrict our industry to 18 potential labs which

defined by the OSHA-approved NRTLs we then
restrict our industry to 18 potential labs which
may appear to be sufficient. This would be the
cast if not for the restriction placed by the
language requiring UL-1741 approved testing
requirements.

When examining the website listed in a

When examining the website listed in a footnote earlier, one finds that only three of these 18 labs are approved to test to UL-1741; and none of these have branches outside North America.

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1 And, of course, the largest percentage of
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- 2 inverters manufactured are outside of North
- 3 America.
- 4 UL-1741 is a safety test, nothing more.
- 5 It in no way qualifies a laboratory for
- 6 performance-based testing. The efficiency
- 7 protocol is one we are crafting together in
- 8 California as an industry, and no laboratory can
- 9 currently claim experience in testing to it since
- 10 it has never been finalized.
- 11 However, European labs, such as TUV,
- have tested to such standards under the Euro
- 13 efficiency tests required in the European Union.
- 14 To be accredited to this European labs and
- 15 laboratories in other parts of the world must
- adhere to ISO-17025 status, which is very similar
- 17 to requirements internationally to what an NRTL is
- in the U.S.
- 19 Along with more specific standards,
- 20 there's nothing unique about the equipment
- 21 required to test the California efficiency
- 22 protocol. The overriding requirements should not
- 23 be the laboratory is allowed to test to a safety
- 24 protocol, but that it has the equipment and test
- 25 experience to examine the same and similar pieces

1 of equipment to the degree of accuracy required

- for the state's purposes.
- 3 To place the restrictiveness of allowing
- 4 only three labs in the world an opportunity to
- 5 perform these tests, one of which is very backed
- 6 up, UL, is a significant barrier that will delay
- 7 the testing of new inverters and create greater
- 8 demand than supply for these tests.
- 9 As a result, Fronius strongly urges the
- 10 CEC to consider revised language that would enable
- 11 the following facilities to test inverters to the
- 12 California efficiency protocol. Companies that
- are NRTLs regardless of whether or not they're
- 14 specifically approved to test to UL-1741; and
- 15 secondarily, internationally accredited test labs,
- 16 ISO-17025 efficiency measurements that can meet
- 17 the quality calibration requirements described in
- 18 the test protocol.
- 19 We thank the Energy Commission for their
- 20 time, and hope that we can find a solution that
- 21 enables manufacturers to obtain tests in a timely
- 22 and accurate manner.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you for your
- 24 input. I'll just say at the beginning that this
- 25 sounds like Committee or staff work, much more

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1 than Commission work. But I'll defer to the
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- 2 Committee.
- 3 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Well, I would
- 4 certainly echo your comment, Mr. Chairman. I
- 5 wanted to second Commissioner Pfannenstiel's
- 6 motion. And to generally expand on her comments.
- 7 We are trying to take a program from its
- 8 pioneer stage in which a lot of very innovative
- 9 risk-taking Californians have signed up with
- 10 significant state subsidy to develop this
- 11 technology.
- 12 We've also been the beneficiaries of, I
- 13 think, a robust and growing solar industry in
- 14 assisting us along the way. But we're moving from
- 15 the pioneer stage to the settler stage. We're
- going to, I think, have a community of small
- farmers, if you will, and no longer frontiersmen.
- 18 And as the volume goes up, the program
- is, of necessity, going to have to evolve. The
- funding is going to have to evolve.
- 21 We're blessed with a very capable and
- 22 dedicated staff that has done an outstanding job
- of trying to keep up with the pace of change.
- 24 Of necessity we revisit these questions
- every six months or every 12 months. There's not

1 been a time in the 30 months that I've been on

- 2 this Commission that we haven't revisited this
- 3 ever six months.
- 4 So I would say to the last commenter,
- 5 and to the other individuals and companies that
- 6 commented on this proposed guidebook change, that
- 7 we'll take all of their recommendations under
- 8 advisement and review them. And those that have
- 9 merit we will bring back and incorporate in our
- 10 next round of recommendations.
- I don't think there's any other way to
- do it. I certainly am aware of your standing
- order that we not do Committee work in our full
- 14 Commission meetings. And, as a consequence, I
- 15 think we should adopt the guidebook as the staff
- has presented it, and as the Committee has
- 17 endorsed it.
- 18 I second Commissioner Pfannenstiel's
- 19 motion, and I assure everybody, we'll be back on
- 20 many of these same questions in another six
- 21 months.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Any further
- comment from Commissioners?
- 24 All in favor?
- 25 (Ayes.)

| 1 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five |
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| 2 | to nothing. Thank you, and those who are |
| 3 | interested should get together with staff right |
| 4 | now and make sure we make the six-month deadline. |
| 5 | Item 4, Forms and Instructions for the |
| 6 | Electricity Resources and Bulk Transmission Data |
| 7 | Submittal. Possible approval of the forms and |
| 8 | instructions for the electricity resources and |
| 9 | bulk transmission data submittal in support of the |
| 10 | 2005 Integrated Energy Policy Report. Mr. |
| 11 | Alvarado. |
| 12 | MR. ALVARADO: Good morning, Chairman |
| 13 | Keese and Commissioners. My name is Al Alvarado. |
| 14 | I am the Project Manager for the electricity |
| 15 | systems assessments that the Energy Commission is |
| 16 | conducting in support of the 2005 Energy Report. |
| 17 | To my right is Jim Woodward, who is |
| 18 | responsible for preparing the report that we're |
| 19 | presenting to you today. The agenda item that we |
| 20 | have before you today are the electricity resource |
| 21 | and transmission data requests for Commission |
| 22 | consideration and proposed adoption. |
| 23 | We are asking load-serving entities and |
| 24 | transmission owners to submit information that is |

needed to conduct forecasts and assessments of the

| 1 | electricity | svstem | for | the | 2005 | Enerav | Report. |
|---|-------------|--------|-----|-----|------|--------|---------|
| | | | | | | | |

The proposed data request is included in a report titled, forms and instructions for the electricity resources and bulk transmission data submittal. This report was posted on the Commission's website on January 7th, and hard copies mailed on January 10th to the load-serving entities and transmission owners that will have the obligation to submit the information specified

in the data requests.

The electricity system data request is the result of several public workshops, and addresses comments received from interested parties. The California Public Utilities

Commission and the California Independent System

Operator were also consulted, since the 2005

Energy Report findings will ultimately be applied to their planning proceedings.

Electricity load-serving entities and transmission owners will be asked to provide data on their load forecasts, plans to supply electricity, and bulk transmission proposals.

In adopting these forms and instructions
the Energy Commission is specifically requiring
relevant parties to file data requests by March 1,

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1 2005, and certain transmission planning
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- 2 information by April 1, 2005.
- 3 In addition, the Energy Report Committee
- 4 plans to hold an additional workshop on February
- 5 15th to review the staff's proposal for additional
- 6 information related to key scenarios and
- 7 certainties that parties will be required to file
- 8 by April 1st. These scenarios and certainties to
- 9 consider are also identified in the report.
- 10 Following that workshop the Committee
- 11 will issue, I understand the Commission will issue
- 12 an order that directs the relevant parties to file
- that additional information by April 1st,
- 14 including additional direction or revisions,
- 15 errata, for these forms and instructions that are
- 16 necessary. The Committee order will then be
- 17 brought back to the Commission for adoption.
- 18 This information will allow the
- 19 Commission to conduct the resource assessments
- 20 necessary for insuring that statewide electricity
- 21 energy trends are fully understood and that
- 22 policies are implemented for providing reliable
- 23 electricity to California at affordable rates, and
- in an environmentally acceptable manner.
- 25 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. We have a

1 couple members of the audience who would like to

- 2 comment. Shall we hear from them? Mr. Guliasi.
- 3 MR. GULIASI: Thank you and good
- 4 morning, Commissioners. My name is Les Guliasi
- 5 from Pacific Gas and Electric Company.
- 6 I would like to just raise one issue of
- 7 concern, potential concern, with the forms and
- 8 instructions that you are about to adopt this
- 9 morning. I'm going to direct you to the language
- 10 that appears on the bottom of page 1 and the top
- of page 2 of the forms and instructions.
- 12 The statement is here that, as we just
- 13 head, on February 15th you plan on having an
- 14 additional workshop to further define some of the
- 15 scenarios that will need to be developed. And
- then subsequently the Committee will issue a
- 17 ruling regarding exactly what additional scenarios
- 18 need to be run.
- 19 The concern I have is that we don't
- 20 really know, with any degree of certainty, what
- 21 additional work will be imposed. As you probably
- 22 know, the data collection, the data processing and
- 23 the resource planning processes are very time
- 24 consuming and very labor intensive.
- While there is some indication toward

the back of the document that identifies some of
the uncertainties and some of the potential
scenarios that may be run, we're concerned that
without greater specificity we're left with kind
of an unknown and maybe even an open-ended set of
scenarios that we may have to run.

To the extent that what we have before us delineates pretty clearly the extent to which we're going to have to run scenarios, I think we're comfortable. But to the extent that there may be new scenarios developed, or new requests for scenarios developed on February 15th we're going to run up against a very tight time schedule to produce all the data you need on time.

To the extent that you're just going to, you know, manipulate various elements, you know, various scenarios, that's fine. But to the extent that you want to start developing whole new resource plans out of new cloth, that kind of effort could pose problems. I just wanted to bring that issue to your attention.

To the extent that staff has some sense of the additional work that might be required, perhaps they could issue some guidelines prior to the February 15th workshop that would give us

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1 enough information to come prepared to address
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- 2 this issue and the concern I'm raising for you
- 3 today.
- 4 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Mr. Chairman.
- 5 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Commissioner Geesman.
- 6 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I think the
- 7 ambiguity comes more from the Committee than from
- 8 the staff. And what we wanted to do was provide
- 9 the CPUC Staff and the Cal-ISO Staff a full
- 10 opportunity to think through what each of those
- 11 organizations felt would be appropriate from a
- 12 scenarios standpoint. And what would best
- 13 illustrate the uncertainties surrounding all of
- 14 these numbers.
- 15 I think that any work that we come up
- 16 with for you all to do coming out of the February
- 17 15th workshop will obviously need to be
- disciplined against a realistic timeframe.
- 19 I'm mindful of the fact that even at
- 20 this early stage this data gathering has proven to
- 21 be a difficult subject for your company and at
- least one of the other IOUs. The retail supply
- 23 price projections, that we visited a couple of
- times in our earlier Commission meetings, were
- originally due, I think, November 24th. And we

have provided, I think, as much flexibility in
responding to those needs as we can.

3 We'll take up the enforcement question

4 on the next item, but just so that there be no

5 suspense, I intended to ask the Chair to put this

6 item over until February 2nd, or I should say to

7 put the enforcement question over until February

8 2nd to give our staff a better opportunity to

determine whether the information that was

10 submitted here in the last couple of days, in

11 fact, meets their requirements or not.

But, going forward, we've pretty much
taken all of the time for slippage or delay out of
our calendar. And I can assure you at our
workshop on scenarios we will have a discipline
that prevents us from making unrealistic requests,

a request that you're not able to perform in a

18 timely fashion.

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But, I can't begin to describe the determination that we all need to have to meet the requirements for information coming in in the future that we've already specified. A lack of timely response undercuts our ability and your ability to do the job that the Legislature and the

25 Public Utilities Commission have laid out for us.

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1 And as you well know, this is supposed
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- 2 to drive future cycles in the procurement process.
- 3 So there are a lot of ratepayer impacts at stake.
- 4 So I'll commit to you that we'll be
- 5 realistic on February 15th. I'll absolve the
- 6 staff of any responsibility for the ambiguity that
- 7 you found in the current forms and instructions,
- 8 but really implore you to provide a timely
- 9 response to the requests that we've already made.
- 10 MR. GULIASI: May I respond briefly?
- 11 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Certainly.
- MR. GULIASI: With respect to the forms
- and instructions before us, we've been working
- 14 diligently and we are on schedule to meet the
- deadlines that you've get. I don't see any
- 16 difficulty, you know, up to this point meeting the
- 17 schedule.
- 18 And I'm very mindful of the fact that my
- 19 company was -- has been the cause of the delay
- 20 that you're referring to in setting us all back a
- 21 bit. And as we'll hear in the next item, when you
- 22 discuss item number 5, PG&E has submitted all the
- 23 necessary data. We believe it's complete, and
- it's in the hands of the staff.
- But, you know, I appreciate what you're

1 saying here about the need to develop some

- 2 realistic scenarios and I appreciate the fact that
- 3 the Committee will be disciplined and be as
- 4 specific as possible so that we can all get the
- 5 work done on schedule.
- 6 The reason I'm addressing this issue is
- 7 because we have some experience in the PUC
- 8 proceedings, in the long-term planning proceed,
- 9 wherein the utilities were ordered, near the end
- of that proceeding, to run multiple scenarios
- 11 which, from our experience, caused a great deal of
- 12 effort, and you know, a time delay.
- 13 And so based on that experience I was
- just trying to raise this issue to your attention.
- 15 And I'm glad that you're going to be, seriously
- 16 consider a reasonable number of scenarios and
- impose some discipline on the process.
- 18 And even, I think I heard you say,
- 19 perhaps adjust schedule if necessary. We hope you
- 20 don't have to do that. But it's the experience
- 21 that we've had i that other proceeding that led us
- 22 to have this concern now. And, again, my
- 23 recommendation is to the extent that the staff of
- the Energy Commission can work with the staff of
- 25 the other two institutions, the Public Utilities

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1 Commission and the ISO, to kind of get their arms
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- around potential scenarios, that would be helpful.
- 3 And even in advance of the workshop,
- 4 give us some indication of what we're looking for,
- 5 so we can be constructive participants in that
- 6 workshop, and then dispense with the work.
- 7 Thank you very much.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 9 COMMISSIONER BOYD: Mr. Chairman, as the
- 10 other member of the Committee that Mr. Geesman
- 11 made reference to, I'd like to just join him in
- 12 his comments and indicate that sympathetic to the
- 13 concern. I don't want to pick on sister agencies,
- 14 this isn't the PUC, but we're all working
- 15 cooperatively together.
- And I think we'll try to meet you more
- than halfway in doing this. We're a little more
- 18 than feeling our way along, but this is a somewhat
- 19 new venture.
- MR. GULIASI: Thank you.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Mr. Gregory
- 22 Klatt.
- 23 MR. KLATT: Thank you. My name is
- 24 Gregory Klatt, and I'm here this morning on behalf
- of the Alliance for Retail Energy Markets, or

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1 otherwise known as ARM. ARM is a regulatory
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- 2 alliance of energy service providers that will be
- 3 subject to the data submittal requirements.
- 4 I'm here today to ask you to put off the
- 5 report to the next meeting, the reason being we
- 6 would like more time to work with staff to resolve
- 7 some issues that we still have about the data
- 8 requests.
- 9 Now, I'm cognizant of the fact that the
- 10 staff proposal was issued last month, but the fact
- of the matter is we ran into the holidays and
- 12 there have been extensive proceedings at the
- 13 Public Utilities Commission workshops that deal
- 14 with resource adequacy issues.
- 15 And unlike the utilities, which have
- 16 rather large staff, the energy service providers
- 17 that are active in California are much smaller and
- 18 simply do not have the resources to cover
- 19 everything at the same exact time.
- 20 So we're in a situation where we would
- 21 have hoped to be able to work out our issues prior
- 22 to today's meeting, but unfortunately that has not
- occurred. But we do think that it is possible to
- 24 work things out in relatively short order. So
- 25 that's why we'd like to request a hold.

Very quickly, the reasons for the hold

are -- well, just to say this, we understand that

the staff would like to have perfect information

in order to meet their responsibility to prepare

the report. And to that end they've been pushing

the envelope further and further in terms of the

data requests that are being propounded on non
utility energy service providers.

We've come to a point where the staff
has pushed too far, quite simply. The Commission
has broad authority to request information from
market participants under the IEPR statute.
However, that authority is not without
qualifications.

Without getting into the exact language of the statute, the basic -- the bottomline is that the Commission can only require load-serving entities to produce information that they either acquire or produce in the normal course of business.

What the staff is requesting for ESPs to produce is basically exactly the same as what the utilities are going to be producing, with some exceptions about utility-retained generation, which obviously don't apply to ESPs.

The problem with that is that ESPs do

not prepare ten-year forecasts of load; they don't

prepare long-term resource plans in the normal

course of business. Therefore, the Commission

does not have any authority to require them to

submit that type of information in the context of

the IEPR.

Now, I don't want to give the impression that we don't want to be responsive, however we don't, you know, we want to tell -- that we don't want to be cooperative.

As Commissioner Geesman knows, from the last round of data requests, we have submitted -- all our members have submitted their reports on time and they have been complete.

But what's being asked for in this latest round of data requests just simply goes too far.

Another consideration is that the statute expressly provides that to the maximum extent possible, and that's a direct quote from the statute, "to the maximum extent possible", the staff should use estimates and proxies based upon surveys and research, as opposed to the type of information that they're asking for -- or excuse

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1 me, as a general matter that's one of the
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- 2 restrictions on your authority.
- And a lot of the information that was
- 4 requested in this latest round of data requests is
- 5 not necessary for the staff to perform their
- 6 responsibilities.
- 7 Some other problems are a bit more
- 8 technical. For example, they're asking for a lot
- 9 of detailed information about bilateral contracts.
- 10 Now, some of this information is already public.
- 11 For example, the name of the counter-party and the
- 12 megawatts. But information about price and other
- detailed terms of the contracts are not public;
- 14 they're extremely sensitive. And we have some
- 15 concerns about confidentiality.
- 16 Also, the report provides that for
- 17 purposes of reporting your supply, firm liquidated
- damages contracts, which is a specific type of
- 19 contract in general usage in the state and in the
- 20 region, would not be recognized for the years 2009
- 21 and after. And the report says that's based upon
- 22 the Public Utilities Commission's decisions about
- 23 resource adequacy.
- Well, there's nothing in the
- 25 Commission's decisions about a 2009 sunset data

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for firm LD contracts. It's just not in the
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- 2 decision. So I don't know where that came from.
- 3 Also the report provides that load-
- 4 serving entities are supposed to report their
- 5 demand and to include 15 percent planning reserves
- 6 in that number. Well, the resource adequacy
- 7 requirement only applies to coincident peak
- 8 demand. So it doesn't make sense to have load-
- 9 serving entities report non-coincident peak demand
- 10 information with the reserves added on top of it.
- 11 It gives you a number that is worthless,
- 12 basically.
- 13 So there are several other problems and
- issues with the data requests that I don't want to
- 15 bore you with the details of now. But suffice it
- 16 to say that there are some issues that need to be
- 17 worked out.
- 18 And we understand we are coming up
- 19 against some time pressures, but we would very
- 20 much urge the Commission to put things off for a
- 21 few weeks to give us an opportunity to see if we
- 22 can't resolve what disputes we still have, within
- the next couple weeks.
- 24 Let's see -- the alternative is for the
- 25 Commission to adopt the report today, thereby

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1 precipitating a legal battle with energy service
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- 2 providers over the scope of the Commission's
- 3 authority, a battle that I think we would all like
- 4 to avoid. And a problem with that approach is
- 5 that the battle will result in the delay of the
- 6 production of the information that the staff would
- 7 like -- actually needs to perform its
- 8 responsibilities and duties.
- 9 So in order to avoid that outcome we
- 10 strongly urge the Commission to hold the report
- 11 till at least the next business meeting.
- 12 Thank you very much for the opportunity
- 13 to address you.
- 14 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 15 Commissioner Geesman.
- 16 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Well, it sounds
- 17 to me like their differences with the staff are
- 18 fairly fundamental. And I'm not certain why we
- 19 should think that they would be subject to easy
- 20 resolution within a period of, I guess you just
- 21 said, the next business meeting. But you
- 22 previously said several weeks.
- I certainly don't relish a legal
- 24 conflict, but at the same time, I think that we've
- got a schedule to meet. The future procurement

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1 cycle is highly dependent upon that schedule.
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- I certainly can't draw your internal

 priorities for you and tell you how much time you

 should allocate to the resource adequacy

 proceeding that the PUC issued, or the decision

 they issued late last year versus how much time
- 8 We've got a fairly friend forum and a
 9 pretty easy way to participate that doesn't
 10 require a great deal of formal intervention.

you should spend in our forum.

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- But I think the better course for us right now would be to adopt these forms and instructions, and if you are able to work out some common ground with our staff, I'd certainly encourage you to do so. But I'd encourage you to do so in a context where we've already adopted our forms and instructions.
- MR. KLATT: The problem with that

 approach -- well, I understand what you're saying,

 and we have spoke with staff already and received

 assurances that it's not as onerous as it looks.
- 22 The problem with that approach is that
 23 staff members can change. Commissioners will
 24 change. And what's acceptable to the staff this
 25 year may not be acceptable next year, or the year

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1 after.
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- 2 They may look at what was adopted in the
- decision and say, hey, you didn't provide exactly
- 4 what is specified here in the document, and
- 5 because you didn't do that, we're going to come
- 6 after you.
- 7 And we're just not willing to live with
- 8 that Damocles Sword hanging over our necks. It
- 9 just seems unreasonable.
- 10 And what this -- well, that's basically,
- 11 that's our position. So we would rather take a
- 12 little bit of time to see if we can't tweak the
- decision a bit to make it acceptable, rather than
- 14 spending time and resources on a legal battle that
- 15 could otherwise be avoided.
- So we would just encourage you to give
- 17 us a little bit more time. Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 19 Commissioner Geesman, what is -- may I ask you a
- 20 question? You're going to have another workshop
- or hearing on the 14th of February?
- 22 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: That's our next
- one, and I believe --
- 24 CHAIRMAN KEESE: And it --
- 25 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: -- 15.

| 1 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Are you bringing back |
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| 2 | to us something for adoption after that? Or is |
| 3 | the Committee going to do the tweaking, itself? |
| 4 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: We haven't |
| 5 | determined that yet, but it's not clear that we'll |
| 6 | need to come back with anything further for the |
| 7 | Commission to adopt on this topic. |
| 8 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay. So when we've |
| 9 | adopted the forms and instructions here that'll be |
| 10 | it for this cycle, is that staff |
| 11 | MR. ALVARADO: For a large part of the |
| 12 | information we are requesting, yes. The point for |
| 13 | the February 15th is more to discuss uncertainty |
| 14 | issues and potential scenarios to sort of bound |
| 15 | different areas of concern that we may need to |
| 16 | consider for the future. |
| 17 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay. So the details |
| 18 | of the forms, rather than the forms, themselves? |
| 19 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: And most of the |
| 20 | 15th is going to be oriented to the utilities as |
| 21 | opposed to the ESPs in terms of scenarios that are |
| 22 | run. |
| | |

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complete, as you indicated.

CHAIRMAN KEESE: As I understand it,

your clients or members' filings were timely and

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| 1 | MR. KLATT: We're not trying to be |
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| 2 | obstructionists here, at all. We just really have |
| 3 | some legal concerns that we would like to try to |
| 4 | work out informally and see if we can't have those |
| 5 | reflected in the decision without |

- 6 CHAIRMAN KEESE: And I think I heard
 7 Commissioner Geesman here, they'd also like to
- 8 work it out informally.
- 9 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Yeah, I would
 10 certainly welcome that, and would not foreclose
 11 the possibility of that by adopting these forms
 12 and instructions.
- MR. KLATT: The problem with that is it

 puts us in a position where we have something in

 writing that's already been adopted, and in order

 to --
- 17 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: And you may have
 18 to enter into something in writing with the staff
 19 that clarifies what the effect of those earlier
 20 adopted forms and instructions were.
- 21 MR. KLATT: Exactly, it would almost 22 create more work than --
- 23 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I don't think so.
- 24 And it would certainly keep us on schedule.
- MR. KLATT: Well, in terms of schedule,

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that's actually what I wanted to just briefly
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- 2 state that, as you can tell from the comments from
- 3 PG&E today, they're already on track to report
- 4 their data on March 1st and April 1st.
- 5 So holding things off for two weeks in
- 6 order to get some resolution of the issues that
- 7 are not applicable to the utilities would --
- 8 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Well, maybe I've
- 9 had more experience with PG&E than you have. I
- 10 know that's their best intention, and I hope that
- 11 they're able to deliver on that. But in the past,
- there have been some slippages.
- 13 MR. KLATT: Well, the fact of the matter
- is that adopting the forms and instructions today
- 15 will not change that. If there's going to be
- 16 slippage from PG&E there's going to be slippage
- from PG&E. It doesn't matter if you adopt the
- forms and instructions today or a month from now.
- So, in terms of the parties who are --
- 20 in terms of the other entities that are subject to
- 21 the data requests, you haven't had a problem. And
- I don't expect you would have a problem in the
- 23 future. We just want to make sure that we don't
- have to get into a big fight over this.
- 25 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you, I think the

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issue is before us. Commissioner Geesman,
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- 2 you're --
- 3 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: I'd move the
- 4 staff recommendation.
- 5 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Commissioner
- 6 Geesman.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BOYD: Second.
- 8 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Second, Commissioner
- 9 Boyd. Any further conversation?
- 10 All in favor?
- 11 (Ayes.)
- 12 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five
- 13 to nothing. Thank you.
- 14 Item 5, 2005 Integrated Energy Policy
- 15 Report. Consideration of a possible decision to
- initiate enforcement activities for certain load-
- serving entities subject to the Energy
- 18 Commission's November 3, 2004 retail price data
- 19 submittal order.
- 20 Commissioner Geesman, I heard a
- 21 recommendation in the conversation.
- 22 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Yeah, I think we
- 23 should put this over to the February 2nd meeting.
- 24 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Mr.
- Therkelsen.

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1 MR. THERKELSEN: Yeah, I think that this
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- is -- it's appropriate under the circumstance. At
- 3 the same time I would encourage the Commission to
- 4 take its enforcement responsibilities very
- 5 seriously. That's something that in the previous,
- 6 I think that when we were doing Electricity
- Reports, et cetera, we were probably a little more
- 8 lax on.
- 9 This information is critical; the fact
- 10 that the utilities and the load-serving entities
- 11 provide it is critical. And I think that's the
- 12 points that the Commissioners have identified.
- 13 And we depend on those entities to not only
- 14 provide the data, but also resources to make sure
- 15 that this process works.
- In the future we will be working with --
- 17 continue to work with the PUC and the ISO to make
- 18 sure that we collaborate on data requests, we
- 19 streamline them as much as possible, but we do
- 20 need to make sure that those important entities,
- 21 the utilities and load-serving entities, do
- 22 provide that information and provide it in a
- timely fashion.
- So, we concur with putting this off for
- 25 two more weeks, but also request that we do move

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1 forward in the future.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. And I have
- 3 a request by Mr. Guliasi and Mr. Schoonyan to
- 4 testify. I don't think that's necessary at this
- 5 time.
- 6 MR. GULIASI: That's correct.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KEESE: This item is over till
- 8 the next meeting.
- 9 Item 6, City of Palm Desert. Possible
- 10 approval of a \$197,135 loan to the City of Palm
- 11 Desert to retrofit the existing lighting system
- 12 with more efficient energy equipment. Good
- morning.
- MR. SULEIMAN: Good morning,
- 15 Commissioners. My name is Adel Suleiman and I'm
- 16 the project manager in publics programs office
- 17 here at the Commission.
- 18 The City of Palm Desert is requesting a
- 19 loan in the amount of \$197,135. This loan would
- 20 be used to retrofit the existing lighting system
- 21 with a more energy efficient system, and to
- 22 install the 50 kW photovoltaic system on the
- existing City's carports.
- 24 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 25 MR. SULEIMAN: Sorry. This project is

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1 estimated to reduce electric consumption by
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- 2 approximately 105,000 kWh annually and reduce peak
- 3 by 52 kW. The City is estimated to save
- 4 approximately \$20,000 in annual energy costs, and
- 5 this project has a simple payback of approximately
- 6 9.8 years.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 8 COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: Mr.
- 9 Chairman, I move the item.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Pfannenstiel.
- 11 COMMISSIONER ROSENFELD: Second.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Second, Rosenfeld.
- 13 All in favor?
- 14 (Ayes.)
- 15 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five
- 16 to nothing. Thank you.
- 17 MR. SULEIMAN: Thank you.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Item 7, Center for
- 19 Clean Air Policy. Possible approval of contract
- 20 600-04-019 for \$50,000 to provide analytical
- 21 support for the Commission's climate change
- 22 program and the 2005 Integrated Energy Policy
- 23 Report.
- MS. BROWN: Yes. I'm here to move to
- 25 request that the Commission --

| 1 CHAIRMAN KEE | SE: And you are? |
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|----------------|------------------|

- 2 MS. BROWN: -- approve the proposed
- 3 contract.
- 4 COMMISSIONER BOYD: You are whom?
- 5 CHAIRMAN KEESE: And, Susan, --
- 6 MS. BROWN: I'm sorry, I'm Susan Brown.
- 7 (Laughter.)
- 8 MS. BROWN: I apologize. It's been
- 9 awhile since I've spoken to the full Commission.
- 10 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 11 MS. BROWN: The Center for Clean Air
- 12 Policy is a nonprofit organization who has
- 13 assisted several other states, including the
- 14 States of New York, Massachusetts and Connecticut,
- on state-level climate change issues.
- 16 And for that reason we believe they are
- 17 uniquely qualified to perform this work.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 19 COMMISSIONER BOYD: Mr. Chairman, it
- 20 came before the Transportation Committee. I move
- 21 the item.
- 22 COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: Second.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Boyd; second,
- 24 Pfannenstiel. Any other comment?
- 25 All in favor?

| 1 | (Ayes.) |
|----|--|
| 2 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five |
| 3 | to nothing. |
| 4 | Item 8, Building Media, Inc. Possible |
| 5 | approval of contract 400-04-008 for \$285,000 to |
| 6 | provide internet training videos and other |
| 7 | interactive information on the energy efficiency |
| 8 | standards for residential and nonresidential |
| 9 | building standards. |
| 10 | MR. EASH: Good morning, Mr. Chairman |
| 11 | and Commissioners, public. My name is John Eash; |
| 12 | I work in the energy efficiency division. |
| 13 | If you'd like you can go ahead and vote |
| 14 | this approved right now. |
| 15 | (Laughter.) |
| 16 | MR. EASH: In the interests of time, |
| 17 | okay, let me give my short pitch here. |
| 18 | The purpose of this \$285,000 contract is |
| 19 | to provide internet training videos and other |
| 20 | interactive distance-learning information on the |
| 21 | energy efficiency standards. |
| 22 | And the work proposed will not only |
| 23 | augment the Commission's existing 100 videos that |
| 24 | are currently online on the Consumer Energy Center |

25 website, but will also create a new online

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training academy that eventually will house
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- 2 information for many other states, in addition to
- 3 California.
- 4 The State of Arizona is our Department
- of Energy partner in this new academy; and other
- 6 states are expected to join the project this year
- 7 or next. And I think I forgot to say that this is
- 8 funded by a DOE grant, and also ERPA funded, in
- 9 addition to that.
- 10 The contract will provide the following:
- 11 Edits to all the existing videos to insure
- 12 consistency with the 2005 standards; revised
- online text and links; new state-of-the-art
- 14 interactive distance learning modules that will
- include secure testing mechanisms, and real-time
- 16 response to questions.
- 17 Several new video segments, including
- 18 private-sector-sponsored videos; a live webcast;
- 19 and about 5000 CDs in addition to that.
- 20 Using this multimedia systems of the
- 21 contract to provide information allows the
- 22 Commission to move the message of energy
- 23 efficiency and alternative energy sources and
- 24 systems. And to provide training to stakeholders
- on the 2005 energy efficiency standards.

1 So I would ask that you would approve

- 2 this contract.
- 3 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 4 COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: Mr.
- 5 Chairman, I move approval.
- 6 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Pfannenstiel.
- 7 COMMISSIONER ROSENFELD: I second with
- 8 enthusiasm.
- 9 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Second, Rosenfeld. Any
- 10 other?
- 11 All in favor?
- 12 (Ayes.)
- 13 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Five to
- 14 nothing.
- MR. EASH: Thank you.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. A very
- 17 useful program.
- Number 9, California Wind Energy
- 19 Collaborative. Possible approval of work
- 20 authorization WA #MR-017 (Contract 500-02-004)
- 21 amendment with the University of California at
- Davis, to add \$2.3 million to the contract and
- extend the work term to June 30, 2006.
- Good morning.
- MS. YEN-NAKAFUJI: Good morning,

PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345

1 Commissioners. My name is Dora Yen-Nakafuji, and

- 2 I'm the technical lead for the wind energy PIER
- 3 R&D program.
- 4 And we're requesting the possible
- 5 approval of this existing MRA work agreement, or
- 6 work amend -- agreement with the University of
- 7 California at Davis to increase their funding by
- 8 \$2.3 million and extend their activities through
- 9 June 30 of 2006.
- The extension is justified to do the
- increase in scope for the California Wind Energy
- 12 Collaborative. They will continue to administer
- 13 the activities of the Collaborative, including
- 14 conducting the activities in California Wind
- 15 Energy Forum. This year Commissioner Pfannenstiel
- 16 graciously accepted the invitation and presented
- 17 on the topic of California energy future. And on
- behalf of the Collaborative and the Commission,
- our group, we thank you for doing that.
- 20 So they'll be conducting the --
- 21 coordinating and administrating the Collaborative.
- 22 At the same time they will increase their scope
- 23 and take on additional activities that align
- 24 directly with our IEPR process.
- The first activity will be providing

support to the existing Tehachapi working group by

- 2 integrating the -- the cost of integrating
- 3 renewables, which the Collaborative has been a key
- 4 player in providing methodology and analysis for
- 5 that activity.
- At the same time the PIER group has been
- 7 actively involved in a strategic value assessment,
- 8 a methodology for evaluating the deployment of
- 9 renewable resources that will have transmission
- 10 benefits throughout California. And we see that
- 11 the Collaborative, as well as other industry
- 12 experts, can provide substantial support to the
- 13 existing Tehachapi working group, as well as
- transmission support for that group.
- 15 A second activity is coordinating a
- 16 multimember intermittency study group to address
- 17 significant levels of higher wind energy
- 18 penetration throughout the state, and leveraging
- 19 lessons from Europe.
- So we're very anxious in moving forward
- 21 to these activities and are requesting approval
- 22 from the Commission.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 24 Commissioner Rosenfeld.
- 25 COMMISSIONER ROSENFELD: I move the

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1 item.
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- 2 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Rosenfeld.
- 3 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Second.
- 4 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Second, Geesman. Any
- 5 other?
- 6 All in favor?
- 7 (Ayes.)
- 8 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five
- 9 to nothing. Thank you.
- MS. YEN-NAKAFUJI: Thank you.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Item 10, El Segundo
- 12 Power II LLC Redevelopment Project. Commission
- 13 consideration of possible reconsideration on the
- 14 Commission's own motion pursuant to Public
- 15 Resources Code section 25530. This item allows
- any member of the Commission to propose a
- 17 reconsideration of petitions of this decision for
- 18 any reason.
- 19 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Yes, Mr. Chairman.
- 20 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Mr. Chamberlain.
- 21 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: I believe that
- 22 Commissioner Geesman will want to introduce this
- 23 item, but I thought I would indicate initially
- 24 section 25530 allows the Commission to reconsider
- 25 a decision on a siting matter, or on an AFC, I

1 should say, either on petition of a party, which

- is the way it has normally come up, or on the
- 3 Commission's own motion.
- In order for that to happen, of course,
- 5 under the Open Meetings Act, there has to be a
- 6 motion at a business meeting that's been properly
- 7 noticed.
- 8 And so we put this item on in order to
- 9 allow the Commission to consider Commissioner
- 10 Geesman's motion.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 12 Informationally, has there been any other petition
- for consideration filed at this time?
- MR. CHAMBERLAIN: We have not received
- any petition for reconsideration at this time.
- 16 Petitions for reconsideration, under the original
- motion, would have been due through next Monday.
- 18 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 19 Commissioner Geesman.
- 20 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Mr. Chairman, at
- 21 the end of our discussion right before we adopted
- 22 our decision on December 22nd, in this case, I had
- 23 made the request that the decision order be clear
- 24 that we were making the same findings that we had
- 25 earlier made in the Morro Bay case regarding

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1 exercise of our override authority under, I
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- believe, it's section 25525.
- 3 The order Mr. Chamberlain drafted and
- 4 that was executed was slightly incomplete in
- 5 accomplishing that. And I bear some
- 6 responsibility for having reviewed it after I had
- 7 left the Commission that day, and not being timely
- 8 in getting my comments back to Mr. Chamberlain.
- 9 So, this is an effort to clarify that.
- 10 It embraces the same findings regarding the
- 11 Coastal Commission that we made in the Morro Bay
- 12 case.
- 13 If you'll remember, both from our
- 14 discussion of the 22nd and our discussion of Morro
- Bay, it's not clear, by any means, that we need to
- do that. But upon advice of legal counsel, out of
- 17 an abundance of caution, I think it's probably the
- 18 better practice to take this belt-and-suspenders
- 19 approach.
- 20 So I would put forward the language the
- 21 Mr. Chamberlain has drafted, and indicate to you
- 22 that this is what we did in Morro Bay, and it's my
- 23 belief this is what we should do here, as well.
- 24 COMMISSIONER BOYD: Mr. Chairman.
- 25 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Commissioner Boyd.

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1 COMMISSIONER BOYD: As the one who made
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- the motion that day on El Segundo, and I remember
- 3 very well the recommendation and the modification
- 4 of the motion to adopt the recommendation that
- 5 Commissioner Geesman brought before us, and I
- 6 think we were all in error of omission, or
- 7 drafting omission, or what-have-you.
- And I agree completely with what he's
- 9 proposing here, so I would move adoption.
- 10 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Second.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Boyd; second,
- 12 Geesman.
- 13 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Mr. Chairman, I just
- 14 want to indicate one additional thing that has
- 15 happened just this morning, just a few minutes
- before the business meeting. I received a letter
- 17 from the Coastal Commission --
- 18 CHAIRMAN KEESE: We were making the same
- 19 point.
- MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Okay.
- 21 CHAIRMAN KEESE: You're welcome to make
- 22 it.
- MR. CHAMBERLAIN: All right. Well, it's
- 24 a four-page letter, and it takes issue with a
- 25 number of the things that are said in the proposed

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1 order on reconsideration.
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| 2 | And I would simply note for the |
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| 3 | Commission I haven't had time really to understand |
| 4 | the details of these criticisms, but I would |
| 5 | suggest that we simply communicate back to the |
| 6 | Coastal Commission, if you do reconsider. If you |
| 7 | don't reconsider, then petitions for |
| 8 | reconsideration are still due this coming Monday. |
| 9 | If you do agree to reconsider the matter |
| 10 | on your own motion, then the clock starts again |
| 11 | from today. So they still have 30 days to make |
| 12 | these points in their own petition for |
| 13 | reconsideration of the new decision, if they |
| 14 | choose to do so. |
| 15 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. |
| 16 | MR. McKINSEY: Chairman Keese and |
| 17 | Commissioners, in substance I represent the |
| 18 | applicant. My name is John McKinsey and I |
| 19 | represent the applicant, El Segundo Power II LLC. |
| 20 | In substance I don't think we object to |
| 21 | what, I think, is accurately described as this is |
| 22 | an extra safety precaution. Fundamentally, and we |
| 23 | are forced to restate a legal position that we |

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disagree with the Commission on, and that is that

we don't think any of this is necessary because

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1 there is no Coastal Commission report submitted in
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- 2 this proceeding, subject or pursuant to section
- 3 30143(d).
- 4 Because of that none of these things are
- 5 necessary, and we need to reiterate that solely to
- 6 preserve our argument. However, in an abundance
- 7 of caution it makes complete sense to do these
- 8 overrides.
- 9 We do have a concern, and it's a very
- 10 important one, and I think it requires parsing
- 11 carefully section 25530, the statute section that
- 12 allows you to do reconsideration on your own
- merits, as well as a party, that you cannot vote
- on it today.
- 15 And it actually kind of hits on the very
- issues we're having with the fact we got a letter
- from the Coastal Commission faxed to the Energy
- 18 Commission, which I was handed this morning.
- 19 Section 255 --
- 20 CHAIRMAN KEESE: I believe we heard that
- 21 from our counsel today, that this starts a 30-day
- 22 clock.
- MR. McKINSEY: Well, the section 25530,
- you have to be careful. There are two things
- 25 within it. You can order a reconsideration, and

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1 then you can actually agree to issue a new order
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- 2 or decision.
- 3 And the statute's very clear that while
- 4 you can order a reconsideration today, at a
- 5 business meeting, you can't approve a new order or
- 6 decision until you've given notice to all parties.
- 7 And notice requires ten-days notice.
- 8 The notice for this event went out on
- 9 Thursday of last week, so it has not been ten
- 10 days. So you cannot approve procedurally
- 11 correctly any changes to this decision until the
- next business meeting on February 2nd. And that's
- 13 very clear by statute.
- And so while we're interested in having
- this change, certainly it's good, you would
- 16 actually introduce an Achilles's Heel, so to
- speak, in the decision were you to approve it
- 18 today. Clearly you can order a reconsideration on
- 19 your own merits, but you would need to table the
- 20 decision until February 2nd to approve it.
- 21 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: I respectfully
- 22 disagree with counsel and his interpretation of
- 23 section 25530. I have always interpreted this
- 24 section to allow the Commission either to make its
- 25 new decision on the spot, or to -- what he's

1 referring to is the sentence that says a decision

- or order may be reconsidered by the Commission on
- 3 the basis of all pertinent portions of the record,
- 4 together with such argument as the Commission may
- 5 permit, or the Commission may hold a further
- 6 hearing after notice to all interested persons.
- 7 That further hearing anticipates
- 8 potentially taking additional evidence. That is a
- 9 possibility, but in this case that's not being
- 10 proposed.
- 11 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Because --
- 12 MR. McKINSEY: I would indicate that the
- 13 key thing in there that's really important is
- there's another comma, and I don't want to be
- parsing commas, but it's very significant.
- 16 It says may hold, after a further
- 17 hearing, comma. Meaning that that's a separate
- 18 phrase, and that the after notice applies to any
- 19 action being proposed to be taken by the
- 20 Commission.
- 21 And with just within a context of
- 22 process, that seems absolutely necessary.
- Otherwise, you have the situation you have, which
- is there are a significant number of parties that
- 25 are very interested in this very Coastal

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1 Commission issue who aren't on the phone that I
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- 2 know of, who didn't submit letters. One party,
- 3 the Coastal Commission, got a letter in by fax
- 4 first thing this morning, which frankly nobody has
- 5 had time to read.
- And we are very interested in having a
- 7 very button-type decision that is very legally
- 8 solid. And that comma, that other comma, means
- 9 that the notice is required or any action being
- 10 taken by the Commission on its own motion.
- 11 That's our interpretation.
- 12 COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: Mr. Chairman, I'd
- 13 encourage you'd to defer to the applicant's
- 14 interests from a calendar standpoint without
- 15 getting into the question as to legal
- 16 interpretation.
- 17 I'd certainly have no reason to question
- 18 our counsel's interpretation, but if the applicant
- 19 suggested --
- 20 CHAIRMAN KEESE: The issue that is in
- 21 front of us today is here because of an abundance
- of caution. And the applicant is suggesting a
- 23 little more abundance of caution.
- 24 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: So let me just
- summarize, then, my understanding of where we're

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1 going. You would be approving, then, the motion
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- 2 to reconsider, which would basically take the
- decision that was made in December off the table.
- 4 And you would be setting for a future date the
- 5 adoption of a new decision.
- And then there would be a
- 7 reconsideration period and a statute of
- 8 limitations for litigation on that decision that
- 9 would start to run from that time. But it would
- 10 not start to run from today.
- 11 MR. McKINSEY: And I would actually
- 12 suggest there's something you could do in the
- 13 alternative which makes more sense.
- I agree that I don't think there's a
- 15 need to hold an additional hearing, per se,
- 16 either. I just think that because of the notice
- for your intended action today went out on
- 18 Thursday of last week, six days ago, you should
- 19 simply wait until the 2nd to approve.
- I don't think you need to necessarily
- 21 wait, order a reconsideration today and then
- 22 approve it on the 2nd. I think you can simply
- 23 wait until the 2nd in order to evaluate and
- 24 approve it.
- 25 And I don't think you need to hold a

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1 hearing unless you choose to. You can simply, on
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- 2 the 2nd, then take up this proposal and approve
- 3 it. And then you're not actually effecting
- 4 anything until the 2nd.
- 5 COMMISSIONER BOYD: Mr. Chairman, --
- 6 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Commissioner Boyd.
- 7 COMMISSIONER BOYD: -- I'm not the
- 8 lawyer up here, but I like that interpretation, if
- 9 it's --
- 10 CHAIRMAN KEESE: I believe the
- 11 suggestion is we just hold this item over till the
- 12 next meeting.
- I see concurrence.
- MR. CHAMBERLAIN: Well, I think you have
- 15 to take the action of agreeing to reconsider.
- 16 Because you only have 30 days to do that. And
- 17 that 30 days runs out next Monday.
- 18 So, there are two actions here. One is
- 19 the decision to reconsider. The second is what to
- 20 do upon reconsideration. And that's what we would
- 21 be putting over until the 2nd.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- MR. McKINSEY: That's accurate, I agree.
- 24 CHAIRMAN KEESE: That is the motion that
- 25 Mr. Boyd is going to make momentarily.

| Τ | COMMISSIONER BOID: I WICHGIAW MY |
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| 2 | previous motion and restate |
| 3 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: And the second. And we |
| 4 | have a motion to reconsider and to take this |
| 5 | matter up at the next meeting. |
| 6 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: That's my motion, |
| 7 | thank you. |
| 8 | COMMISSIONER GEESMAN: And that's my |
| 9 | second. |
| 10 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: And that's Commissioner |
| 11 | Geesman's second. |
| 12 | All in favor? |
| 13 | (Ayes.) |
| 14 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five |
| 15 | to nothing. Thank you, everybody. |
| 16 | Minutes from the December 23rd and |
| 17 | January 5th business meetings are before us. |
| 18 | COMMISSIONER BOYD: Move approval. |
| 19 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Motion, Boyd. |
| 20 | COMMISSIONER PFANNENSTIEL: Second. |
| 21 | COMMISSIONER ROSENFELD: Second. |
| 22 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Second, Rosenfeld. |
| 23 | All in favor? |
| 24 | (Ayes.) |

CHAIRMAN KEESE: Opposed? Adopted five

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1 to nothing.
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- 2 Commission Committee and Oversight. I'm
- 3 sure I have some things, but at this late hour,
- 4 I'll pass on them.
- 5 MR. CHAMBERLAIN: I have nothing
- further, Mr. Chairman.
- 7 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Executive Director's
- 8 Report.
- 9 MR. THERKELSEN: Good morning,
- 10 Commissioners. The budget process for 2005/2006
- 11 has started. As you know, the Governor has
- 12 released his budget, and last week we were invited
- 13 to give a presentation, as a member of the
- 14 Resources Agency, to an assembled group of
- 15 legislative staff on our budget.
- Two things that I would note in terms of
- 17 the Governor's budget. It does increase, propose
- an increase in the number of staff by 20 PY.
- 19 Eight of those positions are associated with our
- 20 analytical capabilities. Particularly recognizing
- 21 the work that we're doing with the Public
- 22 Utilities Commission in assisting them on
- 23 procurement, not only for this year, but
- 24 anticipating that role in the future.
- The budget also recognizes or proposes

1 adding 12 additional positions to our research and

- 2 development program, recognizing the fact that we
- 3 have the natural gas R&D program and recognizing
- 4 that we need to have more people available to
- 5 appropriately manage the PIER program.
- 6 While I'm talking about R&D I would also
- 7 like to introduce you to Dr. Martha Krebs. Martha
- 8 is the individual that I have selected to head the
- 9 research and development division. And we're very
- 10 glad that Martha has joined us. She's been on the
- job for what, a grand total of six hours or
- 12 something like that.
- 13 Anyway, Martha, if you'd like to say a
- 14 few words.
- DR. KREBS: Mr. Chairman, Commissioners,
- 16 I'm very pleased and excited to be here and to
- 17 have the opportunity to work with you in leading
- 18 your R&D program.
- 19 As Bob said, I've been on the job for
- 20 six hours, and I think it's fair to characterize
- 21 my experiences drinking from a firehose, at this
- 22 point in time.
- 23 As you know, probably certainly better
- 24 than I, California has enormous challenges in sort
- of bringing its energy, economic and environmental

future together. But I believe that your R&D

- 2 program has real opportunity to provide leverage
- 3 on that future.
- I have, in addition to, you know, being
- 5 confirmed in this view for the last few hours,
- 6 I've also begun to get an idea about what the
- 7 administrative challenges are that you face, and
- 8 that the PIER program and the R&D program face.
- 9 But I've also gotten a very clear picture that
- 10 you've got a high technical quality and dedicated
- 11 staff working on the problems.
- 12 So, thank you for this opportunity.
- MR. THERKELSEN: No, we very much look
- forward to having Martha as a member of our
- 15 Commission management team. This is an exciting
- thing for us.
- 17 The other thing that happened, in terms
- of our budget, is our overall budget numbers
- 19 actually have declined by an amount of \$61
- 20 million. The primary reason for that decline of
- 21 next year's budget versus this year's is because
- of the accelerated funding of the renewables
- 23 program, particularly the emerging renewables
- 24 program, where we have been spending more money
- 25 than we've been taking in on that because of the

1 huge demands for that program. So that's the

- 2 reason for our differential.
- 3 But I'll keep you informed of other
- 4 activities as we go through this upcoming budget
- 5 season.
- 6 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you.
- 7 Commissioner Rosenfeld, did --
- 8 COMMISSIONER ROSENFELD: I just wanted
- 9 to welcome Martha Krebs. I started working with
- 10 Martha in about 1980 when she was back on the
- 11 staff of the House Energy and Commerce Committee.
- 12 I've worked with her at Lawrence Berkeley Lab.
- 13 I've worked with her at DOE. And I'm overjoyed at
- 14 the ability to see working with her for the next
- 15 four years. Welcome.
- 16 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. There is no
- 17 Legislative Director's report. Public Adviser's
- 18 Report.
- MS. KIM: There's nothing.
- 20 CHAIRMAN KEESE: None.
- 21 Mr. Ajalony, are you hanging in there?
- MR. AJALONY: I'm hanging in here.
- 23 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay. You got --
- MR. AJALONY: Can you hear me well?
- 25 CHAIRMAN KEESE: We can hear you real

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1 well.
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- 2 MR. AJALONY: Okay, well, I'll talk a
- 3 little lower, then; my wife worries that I talk
- 4 loud.
- 5 Anyway, I appreciate the time,
- 6 Commissioners. But I don't look forward to coming
- 7 here in public comment, waiting a couple hours to
- 8 tell you my concerns.
- 9 And from last time, expressing my
- 10 concerns, I was very happy with the response.
- 11 Nancy was able to give me some good information.
- 12 I talked to her the next day and by talking to her
- she gave me two names to talk to in regards to
- this amendment.
- I know one was Joe Loyer, because that's
- who I was able to reach. There was another name;
- I can't remember what that other name was. I
- 18 talked to Joe, had a good conversation with him.
- 19 He had a lot of questions about the area and
- 20 what's going on in the city. And also had another
- 21 gentleman on the phone with me from the community.
- 22 And we were being able to be very helpful towards
- 23 Joe.
- I then asked for -- I sent an email to -
- 25 I sent an email to Steve Munro and Chuck

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1 Najarian, knowing that Steve had some personal
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- issues going on. So I sent the note saying, Steve
- 3 or Chuck. I said, Steve or Chuck, if Steve's out
- 4 of the office I'd like any data requests coming
- from the CEC Staff in regards to this amendment.
- And in turn, I got a response from
- 7 Fernando DeLeon on the 10th saying, I am in
- 8 receipt of your request for information. And
- 9 basically coming across to me like he's looking at
- 10 this as a Public Records Act request. And also
- 11 stating in there, in addition, all communications
- 12 and data requests regarding the Metcalf project
- should be directed to Mr. Munro and not to
- individual Energy Commission Staff.
- 15 Well, that's exactly what I did. I
- 16 sent the actual request to Steve Munro. So I did
- 17 exactly -- it's like I'm being told that I'm doing
- 18 something wrong when I did exactly that. I don't
- 19 want to go on and on, but there's more and more to
- go here.
- 21 But the bottomline is I'm not being
- 22 treated fairly. I'm not being treated equally as
- anyone else would be with the Commission Staff.
- 24 And from what I understand, I think the
- 25 whole bottomline is someone has started a rumor

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that I was out to sue the CEC. First of all, I

don't have the time and I don't have the money to

go after the CEC about anything. I already have

told you publicly, and have admitted that I'm not

going to be able to stop the power plant from

going in. I'm just wanting it to go in according
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So I have no intentions of suing. I'd really like some kind of -- something happening so I can be treated the same as anyone else. There's no reason why I shouldn't be able to talk to Joe Loyer or anyone else when there's issues coming up with that project.

to the decision that the Commissioners made.

The last thing I want to say is I did
talk to Tom Glaviano, and he basically told me,
you know, we had a conversation because I called
Nancy back when I got that response from Fernando.
So I called Nancy just to say, hey, Nancy, I got
something to tell you, because Nancy says there's
no reason why I should be treated that way. And
kind of had a good conversation. I said great.
So when I left her -- I left her a

message to let her know that this is the kind of response I got. She -- I didn't get a call back from her, I got a call back from Tom and basically

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we had a conversation, a nice conversation. But
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- 2 he was -- I was telling him that I was told a long
- 3 time ago that I needed to -- all my conversations
- 4 Fernando had to be on the phone listening while
- 5 I'm talking to anybody in the staff or talking to
- 6 Steve Munro.
- 7 And Tom felt that that was hard to
- 8 believe. I said, well, why don't you find out.
- 9 He responded in an email, I forgot when I was told
- 10 I was told in writing, and he cut and pasted it,
- and he resent it to me like agreeing that that's
- 12 what the CEC Staff has said, Fernando has told me.
- I don't think that there's any reason
- 14 that a lawyer needs to be on the phone while I'm
- 15 talking to the staff or talking to someone. It's
- not like I'm talking to them very often. I'm a
- very busy person. I travel every week, every
- other week, I don't have time for this.
- 19 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Issa, this is Chairman
- 20 Keese. I've read the communication; it did not
- indicate that an attorney had to be on the call.
- 22 It indicated that the attorney would be aware of
- the contacts.
- You've suggested to this Commission, as
- a whole, that your requests were not being

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1 honored. And out of an abundance of caution
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- 2 we've, you know, our executives have decided that
- 3 we will make sure you are being handled, and the
- 4 way to do that is that when there is
- 5 communication, it will be communicated to our
- 6 attorneys. Not that they will be on the line.
- 7 They'll be aware of what's going on to make sure
- 8 that you get fully serviced.
- 9 MR. AJALONY: Commissioner, I respect
- 10 what you're saying, but I think that's a way of
- 11 delaying the process.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KEESE: No, we're not saying --
- this can be after the fact. It's not that the
- 14 attorney has to be consulted before anybody talks
- 15 to you.
- MR. AJALONY: Okay, that isn't what I
- 17 read right here. It says, "Moreover, it is your
- interest that he be present to hear your concerns
- 19 and questions when you are speaking with members
- of our staff." That, to me, is very clear.
- 21 But, you know, if they want to reissue a
- 22 note and allow people to talk to me, because when
- I leave a message for Nancy there's no reason why
- Nancy shouldn't be able to call me back.
- 25 CHAIRMAN KEESE: I believe their

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1 suggestion was that you should go through Mr.
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- 2 Munro to make sure that -- and then you have
- 3 somebody who is responsible for making -- we and
- 4 the Commission want to make sure that your
- 5 concerns are being met.
- And the best way for us is to have one
- 7 point of contact responsible for that.
- 8 Why don't we give this another try.
- 9 Your five minutes of public speaking are sort of
- 10 up.
- MR. AJALONY: Okay.
- 12 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Why don't we give it
- 13 another try, and if it continues not to work in
- 14 your mind, get back to us.
- MR. AJALONY: Okay. Can I just say one
- thing. I don't disagree with the one person to go
- 17 through. All I ask is that one person would be
- 18 responsive.
- 19 See, the problem is when I go to one
- 20 person I don't hear for two weeks, I get
- 21 frustrated.
- 22 CHAIRMAN KEESE: Okay, well, we got the
- 23 message. We'll make sure that happens.
- MR. AJALONY: I appreciate your time.
- 25 Thank you very much.

| 1 | CHAIRMAN KEESE: Thank you. Bye-bye. |
|----|--|
| 2 | Anybody else in the audience care to |
| 3 | take advantage of the public five minutes? |
| 4 | This meeting is adjourned. |
| 5 | (Whereupon, at 12:06 p.m., the business |
| 6 | meeting was adjourned.) |
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CERTIFICATE OF REPORTER

I, PETER PETTY, an Electronic Reporter, do hereby certify that I am a disinterested person herein; that I recorded the foregoing California Energy Commission Business Meeting; that it was thereafter transcribed into typewriting.

I further certify that I am not of counsel or attorney for any of the parties to said meeting, nor in any way interested in outcome of said meeting.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 2nd day of February, 2005.

PETERS SHORTHAND REPORTING CORPORATION (916) 362-2345